

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the production of a lighting element comprising at least one luminescent diode and an inserted light-guiding body, which is arranged in front of the said luminescent diode in the direction of the exit of the main light, wherein the respective luminescent diodes are connected to the inserted light-guiding body by an injection molding process with transparent plastic, the method comprising:

positioning the luminescent diode in spaced relationship to the inserted light-guiding body, the space therebetween defining a gap;

injecting the transparent plastic around at least 50% of the surface of the light-emitting diodes is covered by the transparent plastic during injection molding; ;

forcing the transparent plastic around the inserted light-guiding body to define a wall having a defined wall thickness; and

maintaining that the maximum the wall thickness of the transparent plastic to a thickness less than or equal to does not exceed three-times the gap minimum wall thickness of the transparent plastic.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the lower edge of the transparent plastic engaging radially around the surface of the light-emitting diode ends below a plane, which runs normal to the centerline of the luminescent diode and through the center of gravity of the light-emitting chip of this luminescent diode.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the luminescent diode and the inserted light-guiding body are located on a common centerline, wherein the centerline runs through the center of gravity of the light-emitting chip of the luminescent diode.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the lighting element is made of several individual lighting elements arranged adjoining to one another.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the centerlines of the individual lighting elements are arranged parallel to one another or intersect in an at least partially fan-like manner at one or more points located behind the lighting element or intersect at a short distance.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the inserted light-guiding body includes a concave recess towards the diode.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that a light lens for designing a main light exit surface is molded into the combination of the diode, the inserted light-guiding body and the injected layer in an additional injection molding step.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7, characterized in that the light lens is a diffusing screen.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, characterized in that the inserted light-guiding body has a different color than that of the diffusing screen.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that at least one substance is admixed to the material of at least one component, wherein said substance emits a light of another wavelength when excited by the light emitted from the chip.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the luminescent diodes are fixed on a circuit board before the coating by injection molding.

12. (Currently Amended) A lighting element comprising:

a light source for emitting light;

a light-guiding body spaced a predetermined distance from said light source forming a gap between said light source and said light-guiding body, said light-guiding body receives for receiving the emitted light and for focusing the emitted light to create focused light; and

a layer of plastic disposed between said light source and said light-guiding body to position said light source relative to said light-guiding body, said layer of plastic covering said light-guiding body to form a wall defining a thickness less than or equal to three-times said

predetermined distance between said light-guiding body and eovering at least fifty percent of
said light source.

13. (Currently Amended) A lighting element as set forth in claim 12 wherein said layer of plastic covers at least fifty percent of said light source defines a wall thickness having a maximum wall thickness and a minimum wall thickness.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A lighting element as set forth in claim 13 -14- wherein said layer of plastic includes a lower edge disposed about and engaging said light source.

16. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 15 wherein said light source and said light-guiding body are coaxial.

17. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 16 wherein said light source is a light emitting diode.

18. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 17 wherein said light emitting diode and said light-guiding body are coaxial.

19. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 18 wherein said light-guiding body includes a concave recess disposed adjacent to and coaxial with said light emitting diode.

20. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 19 including a light lens for diffusing said focused light.

21. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 20 wherein said light lens includes diffusing screen.

22. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 21 wherein said light-guiding body defines a first color and said diffusing screen defines a second color such that said first color differs from said second color.

USSN 10/574,376
Amendment
Filing Date: April 3, 2006

23. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 22 including an integrated circuit board wherein said light emitting diode is secured thereto.

24. (Previously Presented) A lighting element as set forth in claim 23 wherein said light-guiding body includes flattened lateral surfaces.